

Wyoming May Live Without Any Taxes

(Correspondence Associated Press)

CHEYENNE, Wyo., May 15.—Dreams of a taxless Wyoming may soon be realized. One section of state-owned oil land will be paying a royalty of \$300,000 annually before the end of the present year, and if other state properties prove out anywhere nearly so well the annual revenues to the state will reach impressive figures.

Under the provisions of its organic act, Wyoming was given sections 16 and 36 of every township for the maintenance of its schools. In this manner the state possesses title to large areas and in many instances oil has recently been discovered on these tracts. It is from royalties on production secured in state land that Wyoming may be enabled to meet its current expenses.

The lease on one of the most valuable sections in Wyoming is about to expire by limitation, and negotiations looking toward its renewal are pending. The section is situated in

the Salt Creek field. The first sand has been largely exhausted, but it is believed by geologists acquainted with the field that the second sand creek sand underlies the entire area. If it does, it is one of the most valuable properties in the state. Last fall a well was brought in in the same township, and it is the largest producer yet discovered in Wyoming. It is from this sand that great production is expected.

An oil company, which now holds the lease in question, is paying royalties. Under the pending negotiations it is thought certain that the present royalty will be multiplied at least by four, and perhaps by five. The lease does not expire until December of the present year.

HAVE SECURED OFFICES

The Queen and Divide Syndicate Mining companies have opened offices in the C. L. Richards building, Main street.

MAY TAP TAHOE FOR MORE WATER

A proposal of the reclamation service to put in larger releases at Lake Tahoe to allow more water to flow down the Truckee river for irrigation purposes on the Newlands reclamation project and on the Pyramid Indian reservation is being sought by a few private land owners at Lake Tahoe and suits will be instituted by the reclamation service in a short time to secure rights to lands along the lake shore, according to R. M. Patrick, attorney for the reclamation service.

Owners of land on the lake shore have been told by persons opposing the government scheme that the lake is to be raised and thus considerable land on the lake shore front destroyed, according to Patrick. "This is not true," he said. "Under our proposal the level of the lake would be lowered four inches below the average high water mark and 21 inches below the high water mark of 1907 when the water did a great amount of damage."

"Furthermore our plan would forever prevent the waters of the lake

reaching such a level that it would destroy short line property as it did in 1907. By opening up the outlet to the lake 180,000 acre feet more of water will be made available for irrigation purposes on government lands and it is by far the most important thing contemplated in connection with the development of the government lands irrigated by waters from the lake.

ADVERTISED LETTERS

List of advertised letters remaining in the Tonopah postoffice for the week ending May 19, 1919.

When calling for these letters please state that they are advertised. A fee of one cent will be charged for the following:

Matt Antich, A. J. Blackburn, R. J. Burgess, John Brill, G. E. Brown, William Cavanaugh, Domenico Cassell, Edna Calhoun, H. L. Carr, Mrs. G. Durkin, Gurg, Dunning, Frank J. Fellows, Mrs. Mary Gardella, A. Guerra, Mrs. J. H. Hoffman, S. S. Harkins, J. H. Ishman, Jack Isbell, Charles Jensen, Charles J. Jansman, James P. Kenley, N. R. McFadden, Stuart McDonald, Dewitt Morris, Billy Murray, D. O'Connell, Sigurd Peterson, L. H. Rockwell, Ed. Randolph, T. O. Uland, D. F. Whitlow.

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Failure of Airplane Building Conceded

(Correspondence Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, May 15.—Admission that both military and civilian experts overestimated the country's capabilities in setting out in 1917 "to accomplish the impossible task" of producing 22,000 airplanes in 12 months is made in the official history of the government's efforts to build up the industry made public today by the war department. Realization of this error resulted almost immediately in the placing of contracts in France for 5875 planes of the Spad, Nieuport and Breguet types.

The report shows that by May 23, 1918, American factories had delivered 3270 planes, or 24 per cent of the ambitious program while the French had delivered 31 per cent of the number promised on that date. Up to November 11, a total of 11,364 airplanes had been produced in America, but these were largely training machines, fighting planes completed during the war period totalling only 3328.

"Broadly stated," the history says, "the United States produced for her army alone in her second year of manufacture, as many airplanes as England produced for her army and navy in her third year."

Organization of the manufacturing industry is declared to have been the smallest of the air service's problems, an alarming shortage of cloth and varnish or "dope" for the wings developing at the very start. Lack of an adequate supply of linen was overcome quickly through the assistance of the United States bureau of standards which evolved a special cotton fabric with a tensile strength of 90 pounds to the square inch. Production of this material was soon at the rate of 1,200,000 yards per month.

"Cotton proved to be not only an admirable substitute for linen, but even a better fabric than the original cloth," the report says, "no matter how abundant the supply of flax may be. It is unlikely that linen will ever again be used in large quantities for airplane wings."

Search for a varnish to protect airplane wings resulted in the establishment of 16 large chemical plants to produce acetone, the principal ingredient.

"Had the war continued," says the history, "these new plants would have taken care of all American and allied military needs, allowing the production of private plants to go exclusively to fill commercial needs."

Development of aircraft was so rapid that frequent changes in models and designs were before the service experts for consideration. At the time of the armistice, the whole pro-

duction machinery had been, or was about to be, turned over to putting out a new De Havilland, known as "A"; the Lepere, a two-seater, built around the Liberty engine, and the great Handley-Page machine for bombing work. Experiments also were under way with the Italian Caproni, to be driven by three Liberty engines.

"But the American invention was able to bring out a strictly American bombing plane that promised to supersede all other types in existence," says the report. "This was the Martin plane which, with a wing spread of 5 feet, attained a speed of 113 miles per hour against 100 for the Handley-Page and Caproni. Where the foreigners required 46 minutes to climb 15,000 feet, the Martin craft took 30 minutes."

YUKON YIELD OF VIRGIN GOLD

(Correspondence Associated Press)

DAWSON, Y. T., April 7.—Since 1885 Yukon Territory has shipped to the outside world \$200,000,000 in virgin gold, according to records of the royalty collector of the Dominion government here.

The Klondike sent to the great war 600 of its stalwart sons, slowed down gold production during the years from 1914 to the end of 1918. But with the approaching of peace large dredges which have been idle are expected to revive their operations, and the estimated 48 miles of placer creeks of proved values within a few miles of Dawson, miners say, soon will hum with renewed activity.

The greatest year's gold production of the Klondike was during 1900 when \$22,275,000 worth of virgin gold was shipped. In 1918, the last year of the war, recorded production fell to \$1,935,820.

MOUNTAIN LION KILLS

SEVERAL SHEEP IN CORRAL

Sixteen lambs, three grown sheep and four goats were killed within a short space of time in Grass Valley, Calif., by a mountain lion on a ranch a few miles south of town. The beast entered the corral where the herd was bedded down and killed the animals by biting each one through the back of the neck.

Men sleeping in the ranch house heard the commotion and rushed out, but the lion had disappeared.

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